

THE MAUI NEWS

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WILL. J. COOPER : : : EDITOR AND MANAGER
FRIDAY : : : FEBRUARY, 14, 1919.

"I have a brother who has become an American citizen. I think I should curse him to the uttermost death if he declined to take up sword or rifle to defend the United States in a war with Great Britain. * * * I did not know that my brother had become an American citizen until a year ago. It gave me a pang; but he did what was right. He was not entitled to make the United States his home, live by American energy, profit by American enterprise, and remain a Briton."—Rt. Hon. Sir Gilbert Parker, Bart.

A TRIUMPH OF THE NEW DIPLOMACY

If Japan has been hoping to "put anything across" on China while the rest of the world wasn't looking, that hope has been dashed in the developments of the past few days. Whatever the future relations of the two governments may be, they will now be arrived at in the open, subject to the pitiless inspection and criticism of the whole civilized world.

Perhaps the most interesting phase of the latest Chino-Japanese situation is the manner in which it was given publicity. In the United States, at least, it was clearly given the widest possible publicity through official channels. It did not leak out or become known by inference. The whole thing was thrown open at once and with such frankness that it carried conviction almost instantly; and from it public opinion will doubtless almost as instantly crystallize.

This is the spirit of the new diplomacy. It is based on the theory that the judgment of people rather than that of a handful of diplomats supposed to represent people, is the only final and just court; and that the proper way to get a decision of this high tribunal is by direct appeal.

Japan already is disclaiming any ulterior purpose in her dealings with China. But the fact remains that she was attempting to carry on secret, or as she terms them "confidential," negotiations. In this she has laid herself open to suspicion, for suspicion is the child of secrecy. If the distrust aroused in this instance is ungrounded, as Japan insists, no harm has been done.

The day is passed, we thankfully believe, when nations may carry on clandestine intercourse with one another. That there was ever any valid excuse for such practice may be doubted; and undoubtedly most of the horrors of war and national misunderstandings in the past have grown out of it. But at present the relationship of all nations is so close that none has a right to secrecy in dealing with another.

If the league of nations, which is taking birth today in Versailles, is ever to hold the world in harmony as is hoped, it must find its power in public opinion rather than in armies and navies; and in the inherent spirit of fair-play and justice in mankind as a whole, which is the true meaning of what we call democracy.

AN OPPORTUNITY MISSED

Physicians seem to agree that the schools should not be closed on account of the influenza epidemic; in fact that the disease could be better fought when the children were under regular observation.

The argument is also put forth that the lessons in sanitation and health preservation taught the children in the schools will be carried home with good results.

A further development of this educational idea might well have been in order. For instance if we had a board of health that was really awake and onto its job, we might see it taking advantage of the present situation to drill into the masses of the people the basic principles of hygiene and disease prevention. The conditions are ripe for such propaganda yet the opportunity is being almost wholly neglected.

Instead of closing churches and theaters, the board might rather have made these places the centers of intensive instruction. We have had the benefit of such effort in our various war campaigns. Our 4-minute speakers might have been drilled for the new work. Advertising on a huge scale by public press, posters, lantern slides and public speakers might have been instituted in a way that would have reached home to every man, woman and child in the territory, of whatever degree of intelligence.

All this sounds radical, perhaps, but that is simply because Hawaii is behind the times and never has had the benefit of an up-to-date health department. In spite of the influenza epidemic on the mainland, the New York City health administration resisted the demand of the reactionaries for general closing of public gatherings, and instituted instead a campaign of education with result that New York suffered less in proportion to its population than most mainland cities.

North Carolina is one of the several states which have recently adopted modern methods in dealing with disease, a most important and successful campaign having recently been conducted there by the state board of health against tuberculosis.

The basic idea in all this is education; a determined attack upon the greatest evil in the world today—ignorance. And in no other field does ignorance play a more mischievous part than in that of disease.

MAUI RED CROSS WORK APPRECIATED

That the endless knitting done by Maui women has been appreciated and has prevented perhaps untold suffering, is indicated in a letter received this week by the editor of the Maui News from Riley H. Allen, formerly the editor of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, and now engaged as publicity man with the American Red Cross contingent in Siberia. Mr. Allen, besides sending a "story" of the work of Dr. W. D. Baldwin and Seabury Short in Siberia (published in another part of this issue), says—

"I am certain that Maui will be interested in reading about them (the Maui Red Cross workers in Siberia), which reminds me that just a day or so ago I wrote a note of thanks to a Makawao girl who had knit a sweater which had somehow found its way out here and you may be sure is much appreciated by the Russian recipient at this season of the year. The temperature hit about 15 below zero today and the weather is a somewhat marked contrast to the beach at Wailuku."

Mr. Allen's note of thanks will no doubt remove any feeling of doubt on the part of the young Makawao lady receiving it, that her efforts have been worth while.

"WHY IS THE PRICE OF MEAT SO HIGH?"

The big meat packing firm of Swift & Co. is spending some of its hard-earned thousands in a nation-wide advertising campaign attempting to answer this question. It makes out a pretty good case for itself—high cost of corn and other grains, doubled freight rates, increased costs to retailers and packers, etc.

Only it doesn't explain for Hawaii. But cheer up! The MAUI NEWS stands ready to donate to Island ranchmen the space needed for the purpose. Now we shall hear what we shall hear.

MAKING EDUCATION COST LESS

It is reported that a bill will probably be introduced in the coming legislature providing an appropriation sufficient to permit the board of public instruction to buy the prescribed text-books for the public schools and to sell them direct to the pupils at cost. There should be no opposition to this. Anything that can make it easier for the children of Hawaii to secure an education is worthy of every support. There seems no logical reason why anyone should make a profit out of education. If the department can save parents a few cents on the school books their children are required to have, it is its duty to do it, and the legislature should back it up. Some states supply school books free to pupils. The plan might be worth trying in Hawaii.

THE NEED OF A MAN ON THE JOB

Delegate Kuhio writes the Governor that Hawaii again got left out of the benefits of the Smith-Lever vocational training bill, but that she got \$2500 added to the \$7500 present appropriation for experiment station extension work. Very direct information comes to the Maui News that the Delegate's absence from Washington at the time the Smith-Lever bill was being considered in committee, probably had much to do with Hawaii's being forgotten.

Whether this is so or not makes little difference now. Kuhio has promised the Governor that he will reintroduce the bill in the next session. If he does, and doesn't get a spell of homesickness and beat it back to Waikiki before that time comes, perhaps Hawaii may get a small share of the good things that are going around.

WHAT OF IT?

"Senator Johnson is a born pacifist, or else a fool. What would the Bolsheviks say if the American forces were withdrawn from Russia, where they are fighting so desperately against great odds just now? Probably the unwashed herd would tell the world, and the Far East in more particular, that they drove the Americans into the sea and then across the sea to their homes."—Hilo Post-Herald.

Well, suppose it did?

Honolulu is said to have as a resident a high military officer who likes to break the speed limits. Also that he is permitted to do so because the police department is afraid to treat him as an ordinary law-breaker. All of which, if true, is a serious reflection on the officer as a good American citizen, upon the quality of "back-bone" of the police, and upon Honolulu people, either for not backing up their police or for maintaining a sheriff who is spineless.

Hilo now wants to tap the territorial bank account, through the legislature, for a quarantine hospital and influenza camp. Why not let Hawaii and every other county handle its own health matters and Hilo build her own hospital, if she wants one? The territorial board of health is a relic of the old paternal days before county government. It needs its wings clipped.

Some people apparently never know what they really do want. Hilo, for instance, worked itself into a fever because it wanted flu restrictions, and now that they are imposed it wants them lifted. There's no pleasing some folks.

Two popular sports of Hawaii lawyers—Stalking the wily newspaper for damages, and stinging the unwary ocean-going ship with libels.

The Victory Liberty Loan will come in April.

OPEN FORUM

A Fishing Expedition Without Fish
Editor Maui News:

Saturday night the following gentlemen: Alfred Furtado of Kula, John M. Medeiros of Paia, Joseph Dolim of Keahua, A. C. Franco of Waikoloa Camp and Johnny Silva, Mrs. Foster Robinson's brother went over to Makana to invade the fish on those shores.

At about 7 p. m. the invaders reached the famous fishing grounds and after partaking of a little repast, proceeded to get their hooks ready.

The moon was nice and the sea very smooth. In about ten minutes the shore was lined up with brave fishermen each holding his line waiting for the ulua, the eel and all other fish which might take the bait.

John Medeiros have been the first to "go over the top," with his hook got it caught in the rocks after getting his shoes well soaked with salt water he finally succeeded in getting his hook.

After kicking about his bad luck, once more he threw in his hook, this time into deeper water and he himself moved away from the briny shore to avoid getting wet, and there waited for fish which never came.

Joseph Dolim, another great fisherman, who vowed that he would clean those shores of fish, had his line also caught in the rocks and after battling away for about one hour, he finally got his hook back only to find that it was almost straight instead of its regular shape.

A. C. Franco, who has made many visits to the shores of Kihui and always got fish was kicking all the while because the boys were using their flash light all the time and that scared all the fish.

Kicking about their bad luck some of the boys tried to sleep on the sand which proved to be very cold and that with the barking of about two dozen dogs owned by a Hawaiian near by no one could sleep.

John Medeiros, did not try to sleep at all and instead he hunted around for a better fishing spot.

Finding Alfred Furtado in a good he threw in his line and sat there waiting, he of course keeping away from the water as much as possible.

Alfred Furtado who is more or less always up to mischief, finding John Medeiros very much eager to land a fish, gave Johnny's line a couple of jerks, who suddenly jumped up and swore by all the fish in the sea, that he had felt a bite and immediately began to haul in his line, only to find the bait in perfect condition and Alfred Furtado rolling in the sand busting with laughter.

Five o'clock Sunday morning every body was ready to get the net out, and you could see the disgust in every body's face, for during the night the weather had changed and the sea

was rough and of course the easy way of fishing getting was put off altogether.

Six o'clock it was decided to invade the "opih" and that meant a trip of about two miles away.

Away went all the fishermen, who, having caught no fish during the night at least wanted to get the innocent opih. The tide was a little high and the opih was in deep water.

It was late in the day, when the fishermen started over the rocks for home inventing all kinds of hard luck stories to tell their wives when reaching home.

Joseph Dolim kicked more than anybody else, because not only losing a good night's sleep he had the misfortune of one of his tires blowing off.

Thus ended the Makana Fishing Expedition.

Yours respectfully,
GOAND TRYTAGAIN.

Death Of Kamaaina Resident

Henry Kekelaia Baker, one of the old and well known residents of Maui, died suddenly from heart failure in an automobile in front of his home in Waikapu, last Saturday evening. He had been visiting his daughter, Mrs. Waikoloa, in Kahului and has just returned home when the collapse came. He had not been in good health for some time, but his condition had not been considered serious. He was 67 years of age.

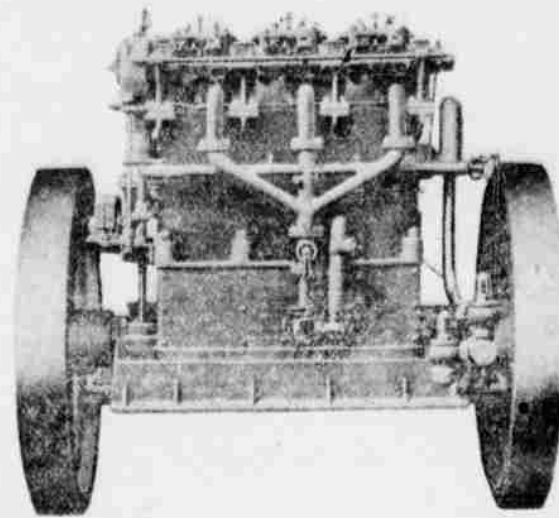
Mr. Baker was a brother of the late Governor Baker, of Hawaii. He is survived by the following children: Mrs. Waikoloa, of Kahului; Mrs. L. Van Lil, of Molokai; Henry Baker, Jr., John K. Baker, Kaapuni Baker. The funeral took place last Sunday afternoon and was attended by a large concourse of friends. Interment was in the Waikapu cemetery.

CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CARRIES MAIL

EUREKA, Cal., Jan. 25—(Associated Press)—One of the most unique mail routes in the world has just been established along the course of the Klamath River between Orleans and Orick. Over a road barely better than the old Indian trails which still exist in that section of the country a caterpillar tractor is conveying mail and parcel post on regular schedule. During the winter months the road defies the most powerful automobiles and is all but impassable for horse drawn stages. The tractor has overcome all obstacles.

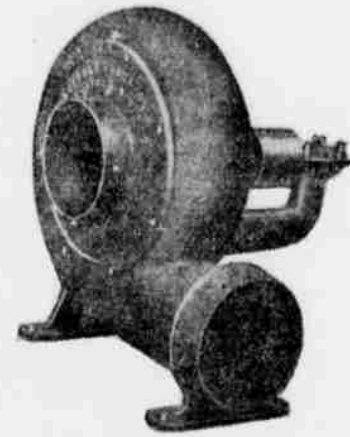
LONDON, January 12—(By Associated Press)—With the abolition of the lighting restrictions, West End theatres are opening and closing half an hour later than has been the case during the past year.

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Honolulu, T. H.

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